

SUBJECT: TRACE REPLY - FRANCISCO ANTONIO MORAN



A. IN DECEMBER 1982, COLONEL MORAN WAS DIRECTOR OF TREASURY POLICE, EL SALVADOR.

B. IN AUGUST 1983. COMMANDER IST BDE, COLONEL ADOLFO O ((BLANDON)) HAD LEARNED THAT COLONEL MORAN, CHIEF OF TREASURY POLICE AND DIRECTOR OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION OF THE LEMPA RIVER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (CEL) WAS PLOTTING AGAINST BLANDON'S LIFE AND AGAINST COLONEL JUAN RAFAEL ((BUSTILLO)), SALVADORAN AIR FORCE COMMANDER. MORAN WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER, GENERAL GARCIA AND APPARENTLY RESENTED BLANDON'S WELL-KNOWN ROLE IN BRINGING ABOUT GARCIA'S REPLACEMENT.

ORDERED BY MINISTER OF DEFENSE GENERAL JOSE GUILLERMO ((GARCIA)) THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ABDUCTING PATRICIA ((MARTINO)) (DPOB CA 1953 IN SAN SALVADOR), PERSONAL SECRETARY AND MEMBER OF NATIONALIST REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE (ARENA) PARAMILITARY UNIT WHICH WAS HEADED BY DOCTOR ANTONIO HECTOR ((REGALADO)) CUELLAR. REGALADO BELIEVED GARCIA'S ACTION WAS PROMPTED BY ARENA LINKS WITH OFFICERS IN THE ARMED FORCES WHO FAVORED GARCIA'S REMOVAL AS MINISTER OF DEFENSE. REGALADO BELIEVED THAT GARCIA INTENDED TO HAVE MARTINO INTERROGATED. IF THIS OCCURRED, HE WAS AFRAID THAT MARTINO WOULD REVEAL ARENA COMPLICIY IN VARIOUS ASSASSINATIONS TO WHICH SHE WAS PRIVY.

Approved for Release
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REVIEWING HOS FILES, MARTINO WAS ABDUCTED ON 22 MARCH 1983 AND THERE IS NO FURTHER INFORMATION ON MARTINO.

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